

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Preliminary to the first Office Action, the applicant has cancelled Claims 5-8, 13-16, and 21-28 without prejudice. Therefore, Claims 1-4, 9-12, and 17-20 remain pending.


The applicant has also amended the specification on page one to include a statement that priority is claimed to International Patent Application No. PCT/US2004/34619 filed 20 October 2004 and U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/514,268, filed 24 October 2003.

Applicant respectfully requests entry of these amendments for prosecution in this application.

CONDITIONAL PETITION

Applicant hereby makes a Conditional Petition for any relief available to correct any defect in connection with this filing, or any defect remaining in this application after this filing. The Commissioner is authorized to charge deposit account 13-2755 for the petition fee and any other fee(s) required to effect this Conditional Petition.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: April 21, 2006